

Action Set 9

This set will assist you in applying what you learned from “Interviews”. Many Muslims neglect how many of our problems stem from lack of communication, or more precisely lack of **effective** communication. More important than what you’re doing in life is **WHY** you’re doing it and that’s what everyone struggles to convey. We can’t complete the well-rounded circle if we just stick with our noses in the books all day and thus we need to encourage interactions within and between groups of different people to enhance our world view and capacity to communicate. Writing an essay is useful, but what is becoming more practical is delivering a speech, or at least engaging someone in an interesting conversation over coffee. That’s mostly what your interview will be like and in fact your interactions with friends, colleagues, and superiors into the real-world will have a lot to do with how good of a talker you are. You want people to say “man I really want to hear what this guy has to say about...” or “she’s the kind of person you just enjoy talking to”. The Prophet (ﷺ) once said **“When you smile to your brother’s face, it is charity.” (Sahīh Ibn Hibbān)** It’s a subtle idea, but the way you carry yourself – your mannerisms, gestures, and tone - can have more impact at times than the words you say.

- "Personal Pitch 1 Revision" - revisions of extracurricular personal pitch
 - Figure out where your pitch is weak and fix it. Focus on BOTH content and delivery.
 - There is always a more succinct and better way of explaining it. Update it with new things since last time.
 - Be prepared to present your revised pitch to the class.

- "Personal Pitch 2" - Why do you want to come to University X? Answer for dream school
 - Same things apply from Personal Pitch 1 – just a different question now.
 - **You are guaranteed to be asked this in an interview**
 - This can really separate you from everyone else. Most high school students don’t think about this. They are just concerned with what gets them in. But if you answer this confidently, uniquely, and fluently, that will get you an exceptional interview review attached to your app.

- Sign-up for an interview for all your SPR universities if available
 - For juniors and seniors, always do this and for younger students you should always do it for programs and scholarships if they are available.
 - If it says nothing about an interview, ask for one! Don’t even say interview, just ask for 15 minutes to sit down with someone who runs the program or admissions to discuss and see if it is the right fit for you. This is a great thing to do at a college visit!!!

- Conduct a formal interview with your older sibling or parent as if they were a college admission representative or interviewer for the school. You can find a list of questions for them to ask on the Mentorship website. Ask them to throw some curve-ball questions not on the list if they can.
 - This should take about 15-30 minutes and is a good chance for your parents or siblings to learn what you’re all about and give you feedback. They’re probably busy people so really demand it from them.

- Review your bad study habits and time-wasters from Aset 6 and seriously reflect on whether you’ve fixed things.
 - Have you managed to eliminate them and replace them with something better? _____
 - If yes, isolate one more bad habit and two more time-wasters and aim to fix those by Aset 12.

SAT Homework

- Complete Practice Test #8.